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News Briefs

by Alex Clerc

Bridgeton Bridge burns

The Bridgeton Covered Bridge of Parke County – one of the most photographed and visited bridges in Indiana – burned down Thursday.

The fire started at about 12:20 a.m. The bridge was quickly engulfed and destroyed. Early reports point to arson as the cause.

Swiss complete Lötschberg tunnel

The world's largest overland tunnel, which burrows under twenty-one miles of the Swiss alps, was completed Thursday. The Lötschberg tunnel is the latest in a string of European engineering accomplishments, such as the Channel Tunnel joining England to France and a bridge linking Sweden and Denmark.

The tunnel will be open to trains by 2007. Work is also progressing on the Gotthard tunnel, which will be 36 miles long. It is set to be completed in the next decade.

The construction of the tunnels is motivated by the ten-fold increase in traffic in Switzerland since 1980.

Fusion achieved at room temperature

Researchers from UCLA released information Thursday on a handheld device that can generate tiny nuclear-fusion reactions at room temperature. The development has no immediate practical application, but enormous potential in future technologies.

The new device, which uses a pyro-electric crystal instead of the conventional tritium, produces only about 800 neutrons per second. "It creates about a trillionth of the energy needed to heat a cup of coffee," said Ben Stein of the American Institute of Physics. "But the fact that a fusion device operates at room temperatures is amazing."

Friday
Rainy 61 Hi / 46 Lo
Saturday
Cloudy 58 Hi / 37 Lo

Provided by www.weather.com

Class presidents chosen

Bridget Mayer
Staff Writer

New leaders for Rose-Hulman's upperclass students were elected this past Tuesday through an on-line election. The three new class presidents come from varying backgrounds and have had different experiences to prepare them for their year of class presidency, but all three are enthusiastic to be in office this coming year.

Ben Adler, a freshman chemical engineer, will hold the position of sophomore class president next year. Although Adler has had little pertinent experience, he has been actively involved in the Greek community, and he chose to campaign to "mend the tears that have begun to appear in our class cohesion." Adler looks forward to a year of development and improvement. "Class of '08, shoot me your suggestions on what fun means to you," he added.

Sophomore electrical en-

gineer Ben Braun will be the junior class president next year. Although Braun had not considered campaigning until prompted by friends, he considered his run a sort of civic duty.

"I've gotten to know a lot of different people here over the past two years, and I think this allows me to bring a much broader view to the presidency," he stated. His goals include hosting a series of events, as opposed to one large event, to appeal to the varying demographics within his class.

When asked what he considered the toughest part of being his class's president, Braun said, "It seems the main problem hasn't been sponsoring events, but getting a lot of people to attend these events."

Regarding the election itself, Braun was unsure if it was a close campaign or not: "I like to pretend I won by one vote. It makes the whole deal really exciting. However, the competition did put forth an honest effort and in all hon-



Alex Clerc / News Editor
Sophomore EE major Ben Braun will be next year's junior class president.

esty I didn't expect to win."

The senior class president next year will be Derek Trobaugh, a junior applied biology major. Although Trobaugh has confidence in his experience as a member of the SGA and his observation of previous class presidents, he also notes that the hardest part of his position will be "having ac-

tivities that everyone will want to come out to." As president, he would like to organize a class trip for his fellow seniors during the last week of the academic year.

Election propaganda was largely humorous; one of Braun's posters included a pun on the Braun home

product line: "Vote for Braun: The Trusted Name in Home Appliances for Over 70 Years". Adler noted facetiously that "I was probably the worst when it came to mudslinging. With moderately large palms and proportionally longer arms, I tend to have the upper hand in throwing mass amounts of moist dirt."

Seniors to the fore: Electrical and computer engineering

Alex Clerc
News Editor

Eighty-nine seniors in suits and skirts crowded the Kahn room for Wednesday's ECE senior symposium. The symposium, the last milestone for the year-long ECE senior projects, gave students a chance to showcase their work in the form of 15-minute presentations and product demonstrations.

Mark Yoder and William Eccles, Professors of Electrical and Computer Engineering, were the mentors for the senior design projects this year. The projects will count for 10 credits of class – four in the fall, four in the winter, and two in the spring.

The goal of the project, said Yoder, is "to solve real problems that need to be solved." The projects all come from outside clients, giving the students a chance to work with real problems in industry. Each project is typically handled by a group of four seniors.

The seniors meet as a class only a few times each term.

Electrical engineering majors and computer engineering majors are treated exactly the same and can be in the same groups. A leader is chosen for each team; this leader is responsible for all communications between the team and the professors. There are very few required meetings; the responsibility to organize the project is shifted almost entirely to the students.

"We're expecting the same performance from our students that their bosses will expect in the real world," said Eccles.

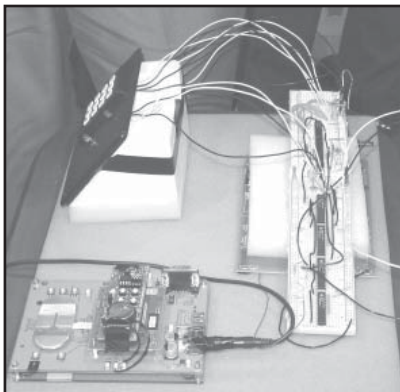
And this performance includes several peer evaluations, something that few students enjoy. "Students don't like peer evaluations because they don't want to 'rat' on their friends. But you're going to have to do this the first time you have responsibility in industry," Eccles explained.

Projects covered a broad range of problems. At the symposium, there was a voice-activated MP3 player, two new home security systems, and solar cell-powered airplanes.

Matthew Johnson, Matthew Duff, and Rebecca Johnson designed and concept-tested a VHDL video converter that is able to convert different kinds of video information into one standard format.

Like many other students, Matthew Johnson felt both prepared and unprepared when he began his project: "The skills required to do the project were not covered in any previous coursework, but the ability to learn new skills and tools was." Johnson and his teammates were able to teach themselves the fundamentals of both VHDL language and television signal processing. Without these skills, they wouldn't have been able to approach the project.

Three senior design teams worked on components for the Challenge X competition. Eric Tollefson, Chris Denlinger, and Adam Roesner designed a data acquisition system to collect and display signals from vari-



Alex Clerc / News Editor
Megan Bardolph, Eric McDonough, and Morgan Reeder designed and built a home security system with a fingerprint scanner.

ous sensors in the car.

The group, said Denlinger, learned many valuable lessons from attempting this project, including the importance of adapting to change: "There's always a moving target for what you need to do. You need to learn to adjust and be flexible." Denlinger also noted the complications that can occur when working in the real world.

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Sports

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Flipside

Make Thorn nights even more fun.

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Classifieds

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Spring Picnic

Come to our Spring Picnic to celebrate the end of the school year on Saturday, April 30, 12:00 noon. Meet at United Campus Ministries, 321 7th St., to travel to the picnic site. Let us know you are coming by Friday at noon by calling 232-0187, or by e-mailing us at Jack.A.Diel@rose-hulman.edu. Everyone is welcome!

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“Working to keep the Rose-Hulman community informed
by providing an accurate and
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THE DEADLINE FOR CONTENT SUBMISSION IS 5 P.M. TWO DAYS PRIOR TO PUBLICATION

All content should be submitted to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or to the Rose Thorn Office (Hulman Memorial Union room 249).
The editors reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, grammar, length, and factual errors. The editors reserve the right to accept content changes submitted after deadline.
All letters must contain the writer's signature (electronic form is acceptable) and contact information (e-mail address and/or phone number).
The views expressed in the Rose Thorn are those of the original author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Rose Thorn staff or Rose-Hulman community.

Relay for Life battles cancer, honors survivors

Angela Smiley
Assistant News Editor

On April 23rd, Rose-Hulman hosted the Vigo County Relay for Life for the second consecutive year. The event honors cancer survivors while raising funds for the American Cancer Society's work to fight cancer and support the afflicted. The Relay for Life is held nationwide, and is one of the ACS's longest-standing and most successful fundraising events.

The Vigo County event drew teams representing local businesses and civic organizations, such as the Indiana Blood Center, as well as many student and professional organizations, including the Society of Women Engineers and over ten local fraternities and sororities.

Many Rose teams contributed to the substantial proceeds. One such team was called the Fundraisin' Engineers. Its nucleus was formed by a group of friends who met during Fast Track Calculus, a Rose-Hulman program that takes place before the summer of the freshman year. Many members of the Fundraisin' Engineers are juniors and repeat participants, and in previous years the group has been recognized for raising the most money of any college team in the event.

Another outstanding group was drawn from the Rose-Hulman Women's Soccer Team. The team's captain, Brittany Moline, commented that she and another teammate (Rachel Miller, also a freshman Biomedical Engineering

major) had witnessed the impact of cancer and wanted to help the ACS. The Rose Soccer team raised money mainly through personal requests, both of acquaintances and the community at large. "We told everyone our stories," she remarked, adding that the donations the team was able to inspire exceeded even their original goals.

Other teams took advantage of the ACS's website, which maintains a listing of teams and handles online donations. Amber Hoffman, captain of Rose's Chi Omega team, said that members had obtained many donations by visiting dorms and speaking with community or church groups, but cited the website as a boon. The Chi Omega team raised \$662.00 through the website, out of over \$1100 overall.

The central feature of the event itself was the relay, in which all participants took turns walking laps around Cook Stadium's outdoor track. However, the event also featured a ceremonial survivor lap, in which local cancer survivors walked the route, and a Lumina ceremony, in which the track was lined with candles placed in honor or memory of cancer patients.

The event was scheduled to run until Sunday morning, with participants walking through the night. While it ended early due to inhospitable weather, it still drew over \$65,000 in donations according to the American Cancer Society. The funds raised are earmarked for the Wabash Valley chapter of the ACS.

Earth Day on campus

Benjamin Mann
Staff Writer

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. This inseparable trio was taught to everyone at the same time he or she learned to add numbers together. Rose-Hulman focuses greatly on the advancement of mathematics, but how does this community focus on recycling?

Some may think that the idea of recycling has remained unchanged: do not throw away any recyclable items. This is not always the case. "Recycling isn't necessarily 100 percent good in all cases," says David Kaiser of the Rose Sustainability Club. This is a powerful revelation to some. Things that are recycled here at Rose campus have a long journey before they are of any use. The recycling is taken from its bins to ISU where they sell it to a recycling company which sorts it, refurbishes it, and redistributes it. This costs money and gasoline. Recycling does not always preserve more than manufacturing from natural resources. This dilemma is just one part of this club's focus.

"The Sustainability Club is an environmental club, we can't get around that," Kaiser adds. But they are not about tree-hugging and anti-industrialization. They try to answer important questions about the improvement of the campus. Someone who visited their table in the Union building on Earth Day, talked to them, and read their informative handouts would have learned

about the amazing balancing act between economy, ecology, and equality. Simple things can be done to help the conservation of these three. Take for example the use of fluorescent lights instead of incandescent lights all over campus. The electricity cost goes down and the durability is greater. This is the answer to one of the hundreds of questions they encounter.

The amount of recycling done by the Rose campus is very low compared to other colleges and cities. "There are lots of environmental things to improve," says Kaiser. It really doesn't take a lot of time to help the environment by recycling. Rose has a feeling of exclusiveness, and it is important not to forget that there is more world out here past the borders of the Rose campus that it is just as much our duty to help as it is anyone else's, Kaiser also explains.

There are few reasons not to recycle on the Rose campus. There are areas to deposit recyclables in the residence halls, the academic buildings, Logan Library, Hatfield Hall, the Union, the SRC, and many other areas. They accept plastic (type 1 & 2), aluminum, glass, paper, cardboard not covered with food, and others. If there is no container for what you want to recycle, then bag it separately, and leave it in a pile at the recycling area. It has been said that one person can make a world of difference. It is true. All it takes is a little bit of effort and every day can be Earth Day.

Seniors, continued from page 1

"You learn all this theory in school, but the real work is in applying the theory."

Like most teams, the group needed to learn new skills to handle the project. "The programming language we used, LabVIEW, was something we had to learn from scratch," said Tollefson.

The student speakers were well-prepared and very professional on Wednesday. The symposium was the fifth time this year that the groups had presented their projects; all 25 groups presented to Eccles and Yoder four other times throughout the year. "You'd think that sitting through that many presentations would be boring," said Eccles, "but it's not! It's exciting to see how much they've learned!"



Alex Clerc / News Editor
Adam Fasen demonstrates a UPC scanner for the blind that he and his team designed.

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Andrea Brown / Layout Manager

Josh Spidel, Charli Dvoracek, and Adam Ford participate in *Good Enough*, sponsored by Intervarsity. The event included live music, student testimonials, and discussion. About 75 students attended.

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Out This Week

In Theatres

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

Directed by Garth Jennings
Starring Martin Freeman
Rated PG

xXx: State of the Union

Directed by Lee Tamahori
Starring Ice Cube
Rated PG-13

Bin-jip

Directed by Ki-duk Kim
Starring Hee Jae
Not Rated
Limited Release

Death of a Dynasty

Directed by Damon Dash
Starring Ebon Moss-Bachrach
Rated R
Limited Release

On DVD

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events

Box Office Tops

1. The Interpreter
2. The Amityville Horror
3. Sahara
4. A Lot Like Love
5. Kung Fu Hustle

Kung Fu Hustle is hilarious

Jacob P. Silvia
Entertainment Editor Emeritus

It was seeing the later *Matrix* movies that made me feel that any computer-animated fight scene in a non-computer-animated film was poor form. I figured if one had actors who knew how to do fighting choreography, why fake it with computers?

Then I had a chance to see *Shaolin Soccer*. I must say, this revolutionized my view on computer-animated fight scenes (though I still think it was too phony in *Reloaded*). This film, about a group of former Shaolin monks who form a soccer team, opened my eyes to the glorious world of Stephen Chow, who writes, directs and stars in his own films of late.

Years later, Chow and company have presented the world with a new kung fu sensation: *Kung Fu Hustle*. In *Hustle*, we are shown two worlds of 1940s China: the world of the slums and the world of the gangs.

Sing, a young man (Chow) and his obese friend (Chi Chung Lam) terrorize a slum, pretending to be members of the feared Axe Gang. His timing is horrible, however, as his visit is overshadowed by the visit of the *actual* Axe Gang, a group of dapper fellows clad in black suits and ties.



www.joy2u.co.uk/medial

Stephen Chow stars as Sing in *Kung Fu Hustle*, an international comedy from China.

They attempt to terrorize the slum, only to have their efforts stifled by the emergence of three specialized martial arts experts trying to live lives as normal citizens of this slum. Brother Sum (Kwok Kuen Chan), the boss of the Axe Gang, is infuriated by this display of superiority. He hires the second-best assassins in the district and instructs them to remove these martial arts heroes. As well, he hires Sing, respecting his quick lockpicking skills.

After the second-best assassins, posing as musicians, fail to bring terror to the slum, Sum depends on Sing to free the number one assassin from his con-

finer: the sanitarium. With super strength and super speed, the Beast (Siu Lung Leung) picks up where the musicians could not succeed.

While the film reveals that just about every character in the slum has one martial arts super power or another, with a few being secret kung fu legends (I won't say who), Sing remembers a time when an old man tells him he has the aura to be "The One."

Further, he remembers how believing this caused bullies to beat him up for defending the honor of a poor little mute girl. Torn by the dichotomy of wishing to do good, but also wishing

to be a total badass, Sing must decide how he will fight in the battle of the masters.

This movie I found to be absolutely hilarious. The acting was phenomenal for each part, even giving the subtitles their own distinct voice. The fight choreography involved a comical mix of martial arts physics with cartoon physics, which flawlessly integrated computer animation to fit the mood of the particular scene.

Yes, it's a comedy in a similar vein as *Shaolin Soccer*, and it parodies so many classic films of the years past, including Bruce Lee films, *The Matrix*, and even *The Shining*.

It is a film that appeals to both humor fans as well as kung fu junkies, and you should enjoy it, provided you have a sense of humor or the ability to enjoy good films. If you're in the mood for a hilarious movie full of action and comedy, with a hint of drama and the essence of romance, and just a pinch of tamarack, I suggest you go and see *Kung Fu Hustle*. According to box office totals for the past week, *Hustle* was number 5 with \$6.75 million in weekend sales. Not as impressive as the \$22 million of movies like *Interpreter* or *The Amityville Horror*, but definitely a better use of your time.

Rolling Stone goes too far with "greatest" lists

Michael Jones
Entertainment Editor

I could be the only person that is annoyed by these sorts of things, but apparently Rolling Stone is under the impression that they're the official of *everything* involving music. OK, granted – the magazine has been around for nearly 40 years, and I can't pretend that they don't know a thing or two about the business. After all, if readers (including myself) didn't respect the publication to at least some degree, then it would surely not be as successful as it is.

But over the last few years, their heads are growing very, very big. Rolling Stone looks as if they are able to compile a list of the best albums/artists/songs in some form or another at an astounding rate, and without

regard that this might come off as pretentious to its readers. Not convinced?

Since the beginning of this millennium, the number of greatest something or another lists has just gotten ridiculous. Somehow they just keep managing to come up with more "genius" ideas. Let me demonstrate:

- 50 coolest albums – 2002
- 100 greatest guitarists – 2003
- 500 greatest albums – 2003
- 500 greatest songs – 2004
- Best music DVDs – 2005
- American Icons – 2003

See what I'm getting at? 50 coolest albums? What exactly is the difference between 50 coolest albums and 50 best albums? And that's not even all of them. In 2004, the magazine published a special issue, "The Immortals", which contained the 50 greatest

artists of all time. By this time I had already gotten used to the magazine's antics, so I shrugged it off easily enough. They had already published enough garbage lists for me to (I thought) accept it. What really irritated me was the release of, and I'm really not kidding on this one, "The Immortals: The 100 Greatest Artists of all Time" in 2004. Eh? This was an expansion of the issue released only a year before that added 50 more artists to the list. This was the last straw for me. Are they really that short on ideas?

Even more irritating is the fact that all of these lists have basically the same results anyway. The Beatles topped the 100 greatest artists list, with Bob Dylan being the runner up, along with The Beach Boys and The Rolling Stones making top

ten appearances. The 500 greatest albums were topped by The Beatles as well, and contained appearances of their albums on the rest of the list also. The Beach Boys and Bob Dylan both had albums in the top five. Bob Dylan had the top spot of the 500 greatest songs, with The Rolling Stones and John Lennon (of The Beatles, of course) holding the number two and three spots respectively. The other polls have very similar results to the abovementioned lists.

Honestly, I don't have a problem with compiling data and arranging items by rank. Publications have done this sort of thing with books and movies for many years, and it's often interesting to see the results. The problem arises when you do it in the fashion that Rolling Stone has. They're likely to create two problems for themselves. They could cause their readers to lose interest in the magazine altogether, much like I've done. They could overdetermine which music is thought of as great. Since the magazine is widely read, they should know better than that. This is very

poor judgement on the part of the magazine to do this.

So why keep doing it? The bottom line is that most of the modern content in Rolling Stone is no longer on the cutting edge of music like it used to be. As a result of its popularity, the quality of the magazine has decreased a considerable amount since it was first begun. The journalism is no longer gutsy and the artists covered are boring. Rolling Stone has lost touch with the younger generation who feels that the magazine no longer covers

interesting stories. It has instead become obsessed with two categories: The most popular fads of the moment, and the music from the 60's and 70's. The best way for Rolling Stone to compete is to continue shelling out huge "greatest" lists. I, for one, am no longer paying attention.

By the way: this is in no way a comment or criticism of the musicians involved in Rolling Stone's polls. I have great respect for all the artists mentioned above, and believe that they deserve the praise given to them.

They could overdetermine which music is thought of as great. This is very poor judgement.



Who: Rich Hardesty
Travis Morris Syndicate
Glass Halo
Burnside
Brandon Javella

For: American Cancer Society
When: April 30 - 3PM to 10PM
Where: Front Lawn of
Pi Kappa Alpha

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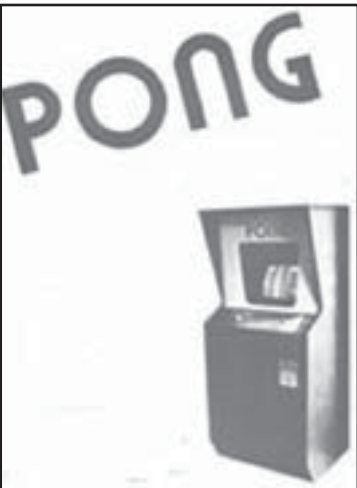
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President Jack Midgley talks to 004

Lissa Avery
Editor-in-Chief

“The first video game I ever played was in 1975 and was Pong. I played it on one of the original machines,” President Jack Midgley informed listeners of WMHD The Monkey’s “The 004 Show” on Saturday night. He spoke for about 70 minutes with the crew—Gregory Weir, Sarah Hegeman, Guy Builta, and Andrew Geiger—on topics including fruit, music, horses, James Bond, and, of course, video games. The interview provided an excellent way for listeners in the community to just hear the man *speak*, casually and comfortably, and the crew of the 004 Show did a good job in asking the right questions to get good



carobinson.com/games/
The original two-player pong machine.

responses. For instance, Midgley thinks Aerosmith is the best band of all time, but plays and enjoys listening to electronic music, particularly synthesized jazz music. He called techno music “dreck”, after which the crew hastened to remind listeners that opinions expressed do not reflect the opinions of the institute or the radio station. One of things that struck me was the casualness of the discussion. Despite whatever trouble there may have been with arranging the interview, despite the technical difficulties of a live phone interview on the air, no one became frustrated or tense and the conversation remained light. Midgley was called “Jack,” and in fact commented on his understand-

ing that the use of his first name is not automatically disrespectful. I liked that. Then again, I *am* a CS. On campus sculptures, his favorite is the abstract metal sculpture in front of Olin, but when asked about the (in)famous woman riding the fish, said, “The question that comes to my mind every time I walk by is... Why?” Indeed. Midgley and Weir both proclaimed that Sean Connery was the best James Bond, with Midgley going on to note that while Roger Moore may have played the role for a short, unmemorable time, Connery was the real Bond. As for Pierce Brosnan... there was debate in the studio as to whether his movies were even qualified to be Bond movies. During big conversations, however, the inexperience of the cast showed; voices overlapped and cut off one another to the point of unintelligibility. Honestly, it was funny anyway. Midgley also revealed his knowledge of the Rose campus and history during the discussion, touching on the existence of a time capsule found during the



www.007bond.de/download/files/wallpp/connery_02_1024.jpg
Sean Connery as President Jack Midgley’s favorite Bond.

construction of the current Fieldhouse. It currently resides in his office. He also mentioned films of Rose-Hulman from the 1920s that are held in the library. The discussion did not cover current controversial issues on campus, to the displeasure of one caller. In response, Weir later stated, “Some might criticize us for not asking serious, hard-hit-

ting questions. So many people around campus seem to have this indignant attitude toward Dr. Midgley. But our show is about relaxing and having fun. I think we accomplished what we set out to do. We found out President Midgley likes Aerosmith and *Goldeneye*. His favorite James Bond is Sean Connery. That’s what our show is all about.”

Bitter Hands Resign: one of the best albums of the year

Michael Jones
Entertainment Editor

Through all the albums I’ve listened to and loved in my life, I’ve yet to find one that’s perfect. There are those that have songs of such power and significance that you can feel the influence. Then there are albums that are consistently great, but never reach a point of perfection. The latter description fits the latest A Northern Chorus release *Bitter Hands Resign*. Although none of the songs will stun you with brilliance, the overall experience of listening to this album is enjoyment. It has all the attributes I personally love to see: overly dramatic, genuinely emotional, lyrically intriguing, and catchy upon the first listen. As far as style goes, A Northern Chorus tips their cap to Sigur Ros and Godspeed You! Black Emperor (*28 Days Later* soundtrack), but never tips it *too* far. The band focuses more on dramatic climaxes rather than the lengthy, repetitive, landscape feel of Sigur Ros and GYBE. There is also much more emphasis on vocals than Sigur Ros. The influence that does remain is the dreamy atmosphere, and A Northern Chorus has achieved this affect flawlessly. Like many Canadian bands of the present, A Northern Chorus features a fairly large group of musicians. The addition of cello and piano add important layers to every song. The vocals are also excel-

lent, and the lyrics have a strange way of sneaking up at the end of a song with some insightful message (“Don’t let hindsight drive you mad” or “You’d always said you’d never let yourself become an accessory to mediocrity”). This lyrical strategy, combined with the continual use of spectacular closings to the songs, makes you want to continue listening in anticipation of the finest part. The album moves with amazing consistency. Each song is appealing in its own way, while none stray too far from the general style of the album. “The Shepherd & The Chauffeur” opens with a piercing guitar, but quickly becomes placid as the vocals come in. The rest of the song builds in volume and layers of cello and guitar. “Don’t Think of Collapse” works in a very similar fashion, only the building repeats twice with a powerful chorus line. The final track “Winterize” is more active than the previous tracks. It combines a busy bass with vocals that are much less restricted. In short, *Bitter Hands Resign* is pure poetry, capturing beauty in a fashion that few albums have in the past. The power of the songs is undeniable. Every song adds something, and since there are only eight tracks, even one subpar song would have made this album far less impressive. But consistency says a lot for a band’s talent, and A Northern Chorus is not lacking in talent. *Bitter Hands Resign* is, without a doubt, one of the best albums of the year.

Album:
Bitter Hands Resign
Artist:
A Northern Chorus
Producers:
A Northern Chorus
Graham Walsh
Label:
Sonic Unyon



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Hit the road with your rally



At least
I have
opinions

John Kropf
Opinions Editor

Since the beginning of the year, I've been hearing complaints from the student body about our new leader. It was understandable; one of the most charismatic and popular presidents the institute had seen in a long while had just resigned. In the eyes of many, no one would be able to fill his shoes.

As many will point out, the problems that some people have with President Midgley can't be dismissed purely because he's the new guy. A fear of change is not the only motivating factor here, and maybe not a motivating factor at all. But there are appropriate and inappropriate ways to air grievances. Unfortunately, I think that some have chosen to handle their problems inappropriately in the scheduling of a public rally about our president.

The environment of the rally is not suitable for of an intelligent forum for discussion and protest. The fact that there will be

free food and shirts to go along with the protesting adds an air of illegitimacy to the rally. It's almost as if the organizers feel that no one would show up on merit alone, so they have to offer other incentives to get people to come. If we're going to have a public forum to discuss the successes or failings of a leader, that topic should be the one and only focus of the event. It should not be muddled with shirts and food.

Secondly, the title sends all the wrong messages. Having a title such as "Hit the road, Jack" suggests that the rally is about one thing; forcibly ejecting the president with no formal debate. This is not the message the organizers are hoping to send. As I understand it, the rally is meant to spark debate among members of the Rose community. As such, it would behoove the organizers to choose a name that would reflect that sentiment.

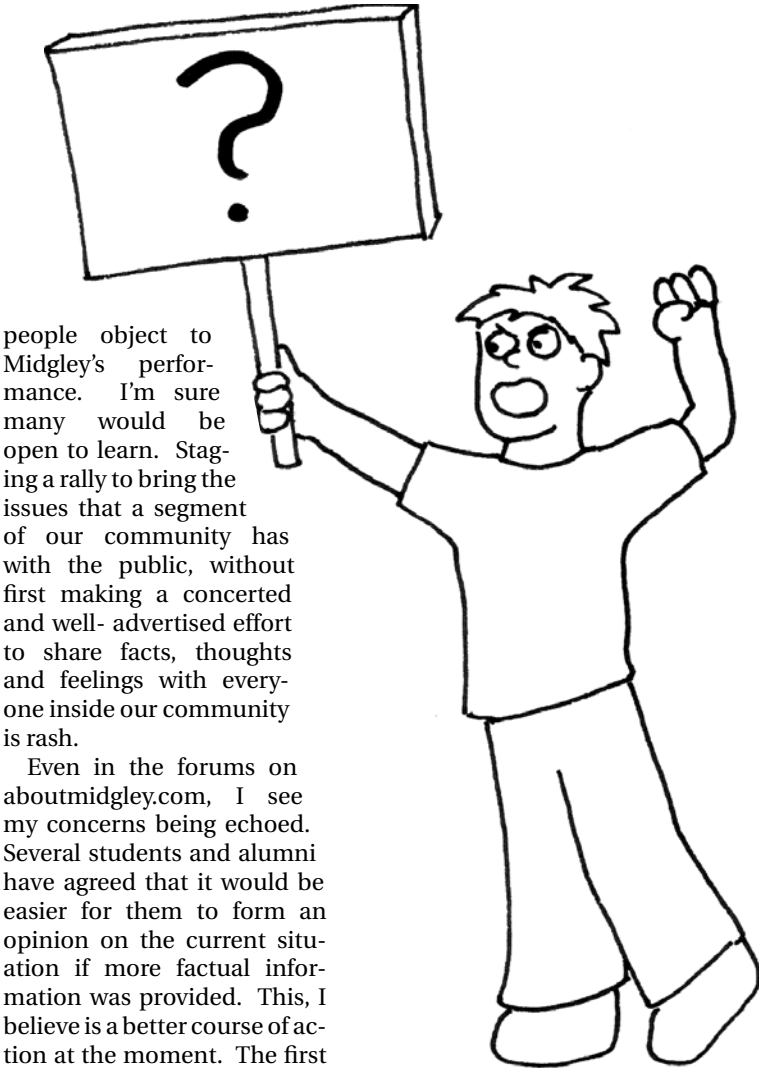
But the consequences of this rally could be more far-reaching than that. The rally has the chance to do irreparable damage to the reputation of Rose-Hulman. Think of the people who will be visiting on Friday. What will these potential students and their parents think, as they see a group of people standing by the front drive, eating burgers and shouting insults about the president? What company or individ-

ual will consider giving money to help improve the Institute if the students are so unhappy with the leadership, that they felt an anti-President rally was the only way to have their voices heard? And what happens if this rally makes it into a college guide book? Opinions about Rose will be formed by prospective students who haven't been here and don't know the circumstances. The rally has the potential to affect the institute on a much greater level than I think many of the participants believe.

This rally also has the potential to discredit the cause if too few people show up for it, for whatever reason. Since there hasn't been any publicized town-hall type forum expressly for the students to discuss Midgley's performance, I have a hard time agreeing to attend a rally which seems to be biased from the outset because of the name that was chosen.

Make no mistake. I am not passing judgment on the opinions of those who don't like Midgley. I am not calling into question their experiences with the President. I am simply stating that I believe the rally has the potential to cause problems that neither the organizers nor the participants expect.

I am confident in saying that I'm sure the entirety of the rose community does not know everything about the reasons why certain



people object to Midgley's performance. I'm sure many would be open to learn. Staging a rally to bring the issues that a segment of our community has with the public, without first making a concerted and well- advertised effort to share facts, thoughts and feelings with everyone inside our community is rash.

Even in the forums on aboutmidgley.com, I see my concerns being echoed. Several students and alumni have agreed that it would be easier for them to form an opinion on the current situation if more factual information was provided. This, I believe is a better course of action at the moment. The first step to fighting for a cause is holding a strong belief in it. And I won't have an opinion one way

or the other until I know more about what's going on.

Letter to the editor

I am writing to support the student organizers of the "Hit the Road Jack!" Rally that will be held on Friday, April 29th at 3:30 PM. The students who are organizing the event tell me they are dissatisfied with the job President Midgley has done on our campus. As a faculty member, I am proud to have been a professor in classes with these students. I believe their efforts reflect the values of civility, honesty, caring, and trust that we treasure in the Rose-Hulman community. I would like to encourage all members of the community to come to the rally and demonstrate their support.

Julia Williams
Associate Professor of English
HSS Department

Letter to the editor

Last week the kitchen for the Percopo Hall was locked because it was repeatedly left messy. After several warnings via email that it is not the job of the housekeepers to clean it, the Graduate Housing Representative locked the kitchen until the person that left it messy would confess.

The action is justified because the housekeepers are not paid to clean the kitchen. Somebody who may not even be from Percopo left a mess in the kitchen. To resolve the situation the Residence Hall Staff are essentially trying to use peer pressure to get their way by suggesting that students who want to use the kitchen find out who did it. The Graduate

Assistant felt that the only way to ensure that the kitchen stays clean is to remove the use of the kitchen for all.

Is this a justifiable response? The Graduate Assistant claims that the use of the kitchen is a privilege, but is that true? Some students consider the ability to cook a meal on weekends essential. So is it fair to these students who had the assumption that they would be allowed to use the kitchen when paying to live here be "punished" because of the actions of unidentified people that were most likely intoxicated (and by the way isn't the fact that there were drunk people wandering the halls a more pressing issue)?

A compromise is needed, as some students feel that Rose is essentially breaking its promises by claiming that the kitchen is a privilege rather than a right. It is a tough battle on how to keep it clean, while adhering to the student needs, and the Residence Hall Staff have made up their mind so far, but should a new solution be created such as locking it after midnight, supervising it, or creating a sign in accountability policy? Is the use of the kitchen in a building that we paid to live in, a privilege or a right?

Javid Khan
Mechanical Engineering
Class of 2007

Keep religion, medicine apart

Laura Alix
The Daily Campus
(U. Connecticut)

A rape victim in Denton, Texas, walked into her local Eckerd's pharmacy in March 2004 to have a prescription for the emergency contraceptive filled. Emergency contraceptive (EC) is also known as the morning-after pill, and if taken within 120 hours can be effective in preventing pregnancy, either by preventing ovulation, fertilization or implantation (the technical definition of pregnancy is implantation in the uterine wall).

EC is most effective when taken within the first 24 hours and is often prescribed to rape victims to avoid pregnancy. Pharmacist Gene Herr, who claimed such an action contradicted his religious views, refused this particular rape victim service. Herr said he felt Eckerd's was asking him to participate in the taking of a human life.

The first problem we have here is Herr's initial misunderstanding of how the morning-after pill works -- it cannot destroy a life that has not even come into existence yet. The second problem is this is not an isolated incident.

While it is still the exception rather than the rule, more and more pharmacists across the country are refusing to fill prescriptions for birth control and EC, even for rape victims. Some will only sell birth control to married women, while others flat out refuse it to anybody. A few pharmacists have even taken the prescriptions from the patients upon refusal.

This has sparked the proposal of several new pieces of legislation across the country. North Carolina lawmakers are considering a bill that would protect a pharmacist's right to refuse medications he or she considers morally repugnant, while Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich (lovingly referred to as "Slobodan" by the Pharmacists for Life) has

issued an order that pharmacists may not refuse a prescription on moral grounds. The American Pharmacists Association has reaffirmed its stance that a pharmacist may refuse to fill certain types of medication only if he or she can find another pharmacist, who will fill the prescription.

The Pharmacists for Life International (PFLI) state that their mission is "to make pharmacy once again a life-saving profession." Well, that's very noble of them, but for all of their talk about life-saving and protecting pharmacists' choices, they make several grave errors. PFLI seems to forget that the birth control pill doesn't take any lives to begin with.

Sure, it prevents ovulation, thereby preventing a pregnancy from occurring, but the birth control pill can't cause abortions. EC doesn't even cause abortions. RU-486 is the actual abortion pill and pharmacists are allowed to not fill that prescription on moral grounds, just as no doctor can be

forced to give an abortion.

Also, a pharmacist who refuses to fill a prescription for birth control or EC, or even dares to seize it, is flying in the face of the doctor who prescribed that medication in the first place. Not to demean the role of pharmacists in any way, but isn't it the doctor's job to determine what medications are best for the patient's health? PFLI still finds the position of the American Pharmacists Association objectionable, however. Many siding with the PFLI claim it is the pharmacist's right to choose whether or not to fill certain prescriptions, which should come as rather amusing when considering that filling prescriptions is part of the job description for a pharmacist.

Even if you do side with Herr, imagine for a moment how this could snowball out of control. A pharmacist may find birth control morally objectionable today, but this could open some scary-looking doors. Suppose a phar-

macist refuses to fill a prescription for an AIDS medication, (mistakenly) claiming that AIDS is a "gay disease," that homosexuality is morally wrong and that this person deserves whatever is coming to them.

Another pharmacist may decide illegal drugs are wrong and refuse to fill a medication for hepatitis, assuming the disease had been contracted through, say, heroin use. The point is that if you are going to object to providing certain types of medications as mandated by a medical doctor, then maybe you shouldn't be a pharmacist. Herr and his crowd need to realize that whether or not the woman down the street wants to go on the pill is really none of their business and that their jobs as pharmacists is to provide the medication her doctor already said she could have. If this is a problem, I suggest Herr either check his religion at the door and not take his work so personally or find a new job.

Rose Sports Rundown

Last week's sports scores		
Baseball (19-13, 10-4 SCAC)		
<i>April 22</i>		
Rose-Hulman vs. DePauw	8	10
<i>April 26</i>		
Rose-Hulman vs. Hanover	10	7
Softball (16-14, 11-1 SCAC)		
<i>April 22</i>		
Rose-Hulman vs. Trinity	0	1
<i>April 23</i>		
Rose-Hulman vs. Hendrix	1	5
Men's Tennis (9-9)		
<i>April 22</i>		
Rose-Hulman vs. Oglethorpe	0	6
<i>April 23</i>		
Rose-Hulman vs. Millsaps	4	5
Women's Tennis (10-10)		
<i>April 24</i>		
Rose-Hulman vs. Centre	3	6
Golf		
<i>April 23-24</i>		
Rose-Hulman at SCAC Championships		
Men - 6th		
Women - 8th		
Teams in bold denote winners		

Engineer men's track and field finishes 5th; women 6th at the SCAC Championships

Andrew Twarek
Staff Writer

The Rose-Hulman men's track and field team finished fifth overall and the women took sixth in the nine-team Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Championships last weekend. Five Engineers earned All-SCAC honors for their efforts, and the women set five new school records.

The Engineer men finished with 61 total points, while leader DePauw scored 211. On the women's side, DePauw racked up 256.5 points to lead the field by a hundred-point margin, and Rose-Hulman picked up 44.

Engineer head coach Larry Cole was pleased with the squad's overall performance. "Nearly everyone performed their personal best time, and that's all we can ask for as a team," said Cole.

Sophomore Ryan Schipper led the Engineers at the meet, placing in the top eight of three different field events. He set a new SCAC record with a 15'-0" pole vault, topping his brother's 2004 winning height by six inches. Schipper cleared 44'-0 1/2" for third place in the triple jump, and added an eighth place, 21'-0" long jump.

The top three finishers in each event are awarded All-Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference honors. Schipper earned a team-high two All-Conference placings.

The pole vault was by far the Engineers' best event. Behind Schipper, Junior Tristan Clark placed fourth at 12'-11 3/4" and senior Brian Page cleared 12'-6" for a sixth place finish.

On the women's side, sopho-

more Kathleen Stynes earned a third place finish in the pole vault. Her 8'-7" jump was good for All-SCAC honors.

Rose-Hulman finished strongly in the discus throw as well. In the event, Tim Hachfeld took fifth with a 132'-11" throw, and fellow sophomore Paul Ceravolo threw 124'-2" for eighth place. Freshman Janel Belton finished fifth among the women with a 110'-

distinction in school record time. The sophomore's 2:26.11 time was good for sixth in the 800-meter run and another record.

Freshman Katy Evert also picked up two placements and school records. In both the 100-meter hurdles (16.98 seconds) and the 400-meter hurdles (1:10.20), she earned sixth place and a spot in the record book.

Junior Alicia Gehlhausen ran the 100 meters in 13.16 seconds for the fifth new record.

Ashley Bernal and Caitlin Pierce also earned placements in the finals, taking sixth (1:02.84) and eighth (1:06.09) respectively in the 400-meter dash. Gehlhausen picked up a seventh in the 200-meter dash in 27.15 seconds.

Two men earned second place medals on the track. Ben Leonard ran the 800 meters in 1:57.89 and fellow senior Page ran a season-best 55.77 seconds in the 400-meter hurdles for the pair of seconds. Both Leonard and Page earned All-Conference distinction for their second place finishes.

Freshman Matt Repking picked up a seventh place in the steeplechase in 9:58.79.

The men's team matched last year's fifth place finish in the SCAC Championships, while the women upped last year's placing by one notch. The Engineers will finish their season with the Rose-Hulman Twilight Meet tonight. Field events begin at 5:00 p.m. and track events start at 6:00 p.m. at the William Welch Track and Field Complex. Selected members of the team will continue to train for the NCAA Div. III Nationals at the end of May.



Photo Courtesy Rose-Hulman

Sophomore Ryan Schipper earned two All-SCAC awards last weekend.

09" discus toss.

In other field events, Brittiney Hoffmann cleared 16'-0 1/2" for a seventh place in the long jump; sophomore Paul Ceravolo tossed his way to a 41'-0 1/4" seventh place in the shotput and Belton took eighth with a 34'-4 3/4" throw; and sophomore BJ Esary placed seventh in the high jump at 5'-10".

On the track, three Engineers set new school records in five events. Mandy Hecker finished the 1500 meters in 4:52.59 to earn third place and All-Conference

Six-run eighth inning lifts Rose-Hulman baseball past Hanover

Rose-Hulman News

TERRE HAUTE, IND. -- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology rallied from a 7-4 deficit with a six-run eighth inning to earn a 10-7 victory over Hanover College in college baseball action on Tuesday night.

Hanover snapped a 4-4 tie with three runs in the eighth, courtesy of a three-run home run by Rob Gumerson. Rose-Hulman then answered with its six run flurry, courtesy of five hits and a key Hanover error.

Senior Brad Jones (Jeffersonville), who finished 3-5 with a home run, a double and five RBIs, started the comeback with a two-run single to bring the Engineers within 7-6. Junior Keith Felton (Huntington/North) reached on a two-out fielding error to keep the inning alive,

before a single by senior Jimmy Goebel (Indianapolis/ Brebeuf) tied the score at 7-7.

Following a Hanover pitching change, sophomore Jimmy Murray (Gahanna, Ohio/Columbus Academy) slapped a two-run double to score Felton and Goebel, putting Rose-Hulman ahead 9-7. Senior John Kolodick (West Chicago, Ill./ Community) capped the rally with an RBI single to plate Murray.

Hanover drew a one-out walk with Todd Miller to begin a rally, but Jones came out of the bullpen to retire the final two batters and earn his second save of the season.

"This is a big team win for us. We went to the bench and they came up big for us. Our pitchers had 14 strikeouts, and that's something that we've been missing for most of the year," said

Rose-Hulman head coach Jeff Jenkins.

Jones led the Rose-Hulman offense with three hits, while Murray added the two-RBI double. Senior Nathan Soyer (Norwalk, Iowa) paced the pitching effort with seven innings of strong work, allowing two earned runs with a career-high nine strikeouts.

Gumerson finished 2-4 with four RBIs, while Tyler Punt and Dan Gillin added a pair of singles each for the Panthers. Joseph Cravens tossed a strong 7.2 innings of work, allowing just three earned runs, before suffering the loss.

Rose-Hulman improved to 19-13 on the season, while Hanover dropped to 11-21. The Engineers travel to Manchester for a non-conference doubleheader on Sunday at 1 p.m.



Photo Courtesy Rose-Hulman

Senior Brad Jones began the comeback during the eighth innning by hitting a two-run single.

Upcoming athletic events

Baseball
Sunday, May 1
Rose-Hulman at Manchester
1 p.m.

Wednesday, May 4
Rose-Hulman at Hanover
3:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 7
Rose-Hulman vs. Greenville
Noon

Sunday, May 8
Rose-Hulman vs. Thomas More
Noon

Softball
Saturday, April 30
Rose-Hulman vs. Franklin
1 p.m.

Track
Friday, April 29
Rose-Hulman hosts Rose-Hulman Twilight Meet
6 p.m.

Friday, May 6
Rose-Hulman at Billy Hayes Invitational
4 p.m.

Games in bold denote home games

The Rose Thorn

FLIP SIDE

Wacky Prof Quotes

“Do you honestly think you could bumrush me? Even when you are healthy, do you honestly think you could bumrush me?”
--Prof. Rader, to a failing student

“You should keep your ideas crappy, at least in the beginning.”
--Prof. Minster, who follows his own advice

“One plus one is well known to be zero.”
--Prof. Sherman, who is good at math

“It’s a lot better when you add a little rum to it. That’s the only way I can take this stuff – being half-drunk.”
--Prof. Sanders, on Coke

“Your mom isn’t going to come in and unit test for you.”
--Prof. Azhar, saying stuff about your mom

“Did somebody eat the erasers?”
--Prof. Sherman, looking for the erasers

“He’s German? Yeah, I heard about that. We should be really concerned now.”
--Prof. Wollowski, on his fellow countryman the Pope

“Let’s have a show of hands. How many of you think that question is even relevant to this class?”
--Prof. Laflen, being kind to his students

“Number theory is for sissies.”
--Prof. Sherman, who is not a sissy

“Oh no! My favorite vector!”
--Prof. Lautzenheiser, breaking his favorite vector

“You might want to sleep through this lecture. I’ve heard it, and it’s not that good.”
--Prof. Sanders, who is Clerc’s hero

“This is just one of those things to amuse you in class. It’s not really anything you’d ever design.”
--Prof. Doering, on the freshman ECE curriculum

“I’m a vicious person. They should have a ‘Take the Train, Wayne’ rally.”
--Prof. Sanders, who really is a vicious person

Send your prof quotes or other humor material to
flipside@rose-hulman.edu

Herbig's Pun of the Week

Following Moore’s Law, computers have been improving bit by bit.

Top Ten Unsubstantiated Rumors About President Midgley

10. In a fit of rage, he cancelled the CSSE department, summer quarter, and the moon.
9. He ate this kid one time.
8. He reportedly cancelled a meeting with the UN concerning weapons violations (was reported sitting in his office instead, unconfirmed).
7. He’s actually twins, and they don’t talk to one another.
6. I heard from Hertz that he skipped out on this one meeting with the Dean of Business Dealings.
5. He once called Kim Fields of “The Facts of Life” fame “a talentless hack.”
4. Actually, I heard he was pretty good... or that’s what your mom said!
3. He said once that his favorite Linux distribution is Fedora.
2. He weighs the same as a duck (the nose is a false one, though).
1. President Midgley is actually Vin Diesel in disguise.

2015... B.C.?

Alex Clerc

I think the 2015 campaign is awesome, but I feel that the conversation needs to start growing. Why limit ourselves to just one year when there are so many years to converse about? And while we’re at it, why are we only conversing about the future, when our school has such a rich history to converse about?

I am hereby opening discussion on xx15, a conversation about Rose-Hulman in any year that ends with 15. Let me get the conversation started:

2015 B.C.: Rose-Hulman, a very new institute, only offers one major – banging rocks together. Students must also (grudgingly) complete a humanities course in cave drawing appreciation.

15 A.D.: Terre Haute is occupied by the Romans. A young Professor Christ teaches forgiveness and economics.

1015 A.D.: Over 500 die in the Battle of Res Hall Feud. Rose Hulman begins offering degrees in alchemy and alchemical engineering (which is *totally* different).

1515 A.D.: The Renaissance brings a much-needed boost in Rose’s humanities courses. Up till now, there were only two hummers – the Bible as Literature and cave drawing appreciation.

1915 A.D.: Everyone is very happy because computer scientists have not been invented yet.

2115 A.D.: Everyone is happy again because no one is left but computer scientists.

4000000015 A.D.: According to my physics professor, the sun will have swallowed the earth by now.

This Day In History

In 1863, newspaper tycoon William Randolph Hearst is born in San Francisco. Later reports indicate it was all the fault of the Spanish.

In Addition

You all seriously need to chill. I mean, I’ve never seen such a bunch of whiny bitches in my life. If it was up to me, you’d all be flogged with flaming nettles inside a nonreactive vessel.

